

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-20 are considered in the Office action.

The specification has been objected to because of line spacing, and because several reference marks included on the figures are not included in the detailed description.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Terasaka U.S. Patent No. 6,236,462 ("Terasaka").

Reply

Applicant submits herewith a substitute specification and a marked-up version of the specification. Applicant also submits herewith proposed replacement figures.

Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13-20 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Applicant respectfully submits that Terasaka does not describe the claimed invention.

Reply to § 102(e) Rejections

Amended independent claim 1 recites a process including establishing a printer driver preference set at a first client computer for sending a first print job to an output device, sending the set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the set at the second client computer to send a second print job to the output device. Amended independent claim 6 recites a process including establishing a printer driver preference set at a first computer for sending a first print job to a first output device having a first feature set, sending the printer driver preference set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the printer driver preference set at the second client computer to send a second print job to a second output device having a second feature set. Amended independent claim 14 recites a printer driver system including a printing device having a feature set, a plurality of client computers networked to the printing device, each of the client computers capable of sending print jobs to the printing device, at least one of the client computers capable of constructing a printer driver preference set and modifying the printer driver preference set at the

printing device, and means for transferring the printer driver preference set between the client computers. Terasaka does not describe or suggest the claimed invention.

Instead, Terasaka describes a computer system that includes host computer 1 coupled via a communication line to terminal equipment 4, which also is coupled to printer 7. (Col. 1, line 66 through Col. 2, line 4; Col. 3, lines 19-26; FIG. 9). Terminal equipment 4 includes a host terminal printer emulator 5 and printer drivers A-C, and host computer 1 includes a WYSIWYG system 10 and a general application 8. (Col. 1, line 66 through Col. 2, line 4; Col. 3, lines 19-26; Col. 3, lines 60-61; FIGS. 3, 4 and 9). WYSIWYG system 10 includes print request processing section 11, which sends print requests to cause terminal equipment 4 to perform printing. (Col. 3, lines 21-24; Col. 3, lines 37-39; Col. 3, lines 66-67). Printer drivers A-C include print setting information. (Col. 4, line 66 through Col. 5, line 6).

To perform printing, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a printer driver information inquiry to host terminal printer emulator 5. (Col. 7, lines 5-15; FIG. 6). Upon receiving the inquiry, host terminal printer emulator 5 returns the printer driver information. (Col. 7, lines 15-17; FIG. 6). If the returned printer driver information does not match form data for printing, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a change request and selected printer settings to host terminal printer emulator 5. (Col. 7, lines 18-26; FIG. 6). In turn, host terminal printer emulator 5 changes the print settings of the printer driver it is using. (Col. 7, lines 27-30). Finally, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a print request and form data to host terminal printer emulator 5, which then performs printing. (Col. 7, lines 31-35; FIG. 6).

Unlike amended claim 1, Terasaka does not describe or suggest establishing a printer driver preference set at a first client computer for sending a first print job to an output device, sending the set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the set at the second client computer to send a second print job to the output device. Instead, Terasaka describes sending a single print job from host computer 1 to host terminal printer emulator 5, which then prints the print job. Terasaka does not describe or suggest systems or processes in which a second client computer uses a printer driver preference set to send a second print job to an output device.

Further, unlike amended claim 6, Terasaka does not describe or suggest establishing a printer driver preference set at a first computer for sending a first print job

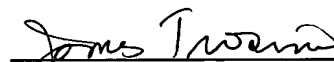
to a first output device having a first feature set, sending the printer driver preference set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the printer driver preference set at the second client computer to send a second print job to a second output device having a second feature set. Instead, Terasaka describes sending a single print job from host computer 1 to host terminal printer emulator 5, which then prints the print job. Terasaka does not describe or suggest systems or processes in which a second client computer uses a printer driver preference set to send a second print job to a second output device having a second feature set.

In addition, unlike amended claim 14, Terasaka does not describe or suggest a printer driver system including a plurality of client computers networked to a printing device, each of the client computers capable of sending print jobs to the printing device. Instead, Terasaka only describes systems in which a single computer (host computer 1) is capable of sending print jobs to a printing device.

Because Terasaka does not describe or suggest the invention recited in independent claims 1, 6 and 14, applicant respectfully requests that the §102(e) rejections of these claims be withdrawn. Because claims 2-5, 7-13 and 15-20 variously depend from these claims, applicant respectfully requests that the §102(e) rejections of claims 2-5, 7-13 and 15-20 also be withdrawn

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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